

TO CORRESPONDENTS.
All communications for this paper should be accompanied by the name of the author, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith on the part of the writer. Write only on one side of the paper. Be particularly careful in giving names and dates, to have all letters or figures plain and distinct.

AGRICULTURAL.

PROTECTING FRUIT TREES.—Fruit, like liberty, is only obtained at the price of "eternal vigilance." The more any section of the country is improved, the greater becomes the difficulty of producing fruit. Nearly all the insects injurious to fruit follow in the march of civilization. The successful fruit-raiser must now be a practical entomologist and ornithologist. He must kill insects if he expects to have either fair fruit or healthy trees. He must also understand the nature of root-rot and sun-scald, and know how to prevent them. Having preserved his trees through the summer against the attacks of insects he must be ready to wage war against small animals during the winter. During the past few years the loss of young fruit-trees by field-mice and rabbits has been very large. In some instances entire nurseries and orchards have been destroyed by them. A hungry rabbit will gnaw a tolerably large apple tree at a single operation. It may be possible to save the life of the tree by the insertion of grafts between the two portions of bark that are still attached to the trunk by banking earth about the wound, but the tree, if it recovers from the injury, will rarely be of sufficient value to pay the cost of the surgical operation and the subsequent nursing. Ordinarily, the first thing to do with a tree girdled by rabbits or mice is to remove it from the orchard and set another in its place. Trees may be protected from the attacks of rabbits by inclosing the lower portion of the trunks with pieces of wood, like laths or staves, bound together with wire. Rabbits may generally be kept from injuring the trunks of trees by smearing them with blood, green cow-manure or a paste that contains tobacco or aloes. As these substances are liable to be washed off by rain and melted snow, it is necessary to make a fresh application from time to time. As field-mice ordinarily burrow under the snow when they gnaw the bark of trees, it is not easy to ascertain the injury they do till the following spring. Mice may be kept from gnawing trees by inclosing the trunk for a distance of a few inches from the ground with pieces of sheet metal or wooden boxes. Sections of old stove-pipe or tin cans opened at the seams and bent in the proper manner make very good protectors. A little mound of earth six or eight inches high built round the bottom of the trunks will be effectual in keeping the mice away. If this mound is made of manure it will afford protection to the tree during the winter, and in the spring it may be spread over the ground to excellent advantage. Some manure may be so applied as to afford protection against both rabbits and mice. Tramping the snow about the trunks of young trees is practiced in some parts of the country, but, as the operation must be repeated after every fall of snow, the practice is not recommended.—*Chicago Times.*

POULTRY RAISING AS A BUSINESS.—Ettie M. says: "My health is not good, and I want to do something to help my husband in earning our living." Now, if this woman is sincere, and will take up the poultry business, and has a natural taste and inclination for it, it might prove successful, and it involves only a small outlay of labor or capital. Abandon the idea of incubators, and procure two or three light-bodied hens of the common native breed. They will prove the very best of sitters, hatchers and mothers. A half dozen good old sitting hens are better and more profitable than all the incubators and mothers ever invented. Such hens should cost not more than 50 cents per head. Procure some eggs of a breed which your fancy dictates, if not leading you into extravagant prices. There is no stable profit in fancy poultry. If you set any duck eggs, put them on the ground, always remembering that if your sitters are a cross with considerable Brahma blood (as are most of the common fowls of this day), they may be moved when once thoroughly settled down to the business, and set wherever desired. Ducks are profitable and the common gray duck is as much so as any. They require a little care at first, and to be well fed. They may be turned off to market when from six to eight weeks old, as they mature rapidly. Chickens are also profitable, but do not turn into money quite so quickly as ducks. There is nothing like steady courage and patience in the business. Resolve at the outset firmly that you will not give up, and gain your knowledge slowly, by experience. Your birds will teach you much;

and, do not fall into the error of following every one's advice, but test each one's counsel by your own judgment and situation, and decide whether it will apply. The raising of eggs, in the long run, is more profitable than chickens, and they always meet with a ready sale, at remunerative prices. Do not look for much profit the first year; but when once established, and a fair stock on hand, you may expect to clear something—but there must be some labor, and more fatigue and patience. As an occupation for women, there is oftentimes a drawback, as the birds and eggs must be attended to in wet or dry weather, hot or cold. This might be damaging to the health, if not prepared to meet the emergencies with warm clothes and rubber boots, to turn the water. Slippers, lace collars and gaudy neckties must be laid aside, and apparel must be provided suited to the business, for which there must be a fondness. There is no reason why a woman should not be an adept, if persevering. There is no need of costly buildings or incubators, but commence in a small way and work up. Remember one thing—fowls will not bear neglect and give any profit. Keep all the fowls that can be made comfortable and fed well, and no more, for the surplus is only a detriment to the whole, crowding the buildings and consuming the food, which, if spent on fewer fowls, would bring a handsome return. Your own labor and attendance must be gratis; you must not charge the birds any thing for it, or value it too highly. You will never come out even if you do. Young birds of every description must have air and sunshine, or die; but should not be hatched too early. They will not bear confinement, and turn out well in the end. Eggs may be successfully hatched and chickens raised in an incubator, but they are, to a more or less extent, valueless. There is no use to turn such chicks in a yard to scratch. They know nothing about it; no mother has taught them, and no mother ever clucked to them, and they are weak, from a lack of natural warmth of the mother hen. All the good feed and care is in vain. The birds are not natural; they contract rheumatism; their toes draw out of shape; their legs become weak, and they sit still and die from weakness. They require the natural warmth of the body, which is like none other. They need something to look to in danger, and the natural voice to encourage and teach, as well as to nurse. With these they will thrive and increase in growth, and the strength will keep pace with growth. When the mother hen weans them, which she frequently does at the age of three weeks, they are prepared to care for themselves, and are taught all the ways and habits of adult birds, and continue to improve. A hen seldom leaves her chicks voluntarily until they can care for themselves, and she does it by degrees.—*Country Gentleman.*

The Coldest Town in the World.

Here it may relieve us when the mercury has crept into the nineties, to think of a town which Humboldt and other travelers have pronounced the coldest on the globe. This is Yakutsk (or Yakootsk), chief town of the province of that name in Eastern Siberia, on the left bank of the River Lena, 62 deg. 1 minute north, longitude 119 deg. 44 minutes east, and distant from St. Petersburg 5,951 miles. The ground remains continually frozen to the depth of 300 feet, except in midsummer, when it thaws three feet at the surface. During ten days in August the thermometer marks 85 degrees, but from November to February it ranges from 42 to 68 deg. below zero, and the river is solid ice for nine months out of the twelve. The entire industry of the place—population 5,300—is comprised in candle works, and yet it is the principal market of Eastern Siberia for traffic with the hunting tribes of the Buriats. The former, mostly nomadic, having large herds of horses and cattle, bring to market butter, which is sent on horseback to the port of Okhotsk. The Buriats, also nomadic, bring quantities of skins of sables, foxes, martens, hares, squirrels, and the like, and many of them are sold at the great fair in June, which, with May, is the active period of the year. In May the collected goods are conveyed to the seaports, whence they are sent in every direction. The merchandise, chiefly furs and mammoth tusks, sold at fairs, amount in value to 400,000 rubles (\$300,000).—*Bucyrus (O.) Journal.*

The present Parliament in England was summoned for the 4th of March, 1874, and assembled on that day. If it should only survive until the 14th of April next, it will not only have run into a seventh session, but it will have exceeded in duration any previous Parliament summoned since the Union, and will have been the longest-lived Parliament for a century.

KANSAS STATE NEWS.

THERE having been made no provision by the General Government to have separate copies of the National Census of each State, which will be taken next year, deposited with the respective Secretaries of the several States, as has been done heretofore, a letter has been addressed to each of our Kansas Representatives in Washington, by the Secretary of our Agricultural Department, looking to the securing of such an object.

THE Governor has issued commissions as follows: Notaries Public—J. S. Lawrence, Osborne County; S. P. Connell, Anderson County; John A. Beeler, Jewell County; Geo. D. Stinebaugh, Franklin County. Census Taker for Ness County, for the purpose of organization, John F. Bowder.

S. H. CLARK has been appointed General Manager of the Central Branch Union Pacific Railroad. The appointment has not been made public, but it reached the Atchison *Champion* so authentically that there can be no doubt of its truth. It will be some days before he assumes control of the line.

A CIRCULAR has been issued by Major-General Willis Brown, suggesting that a convention of the officers of the K. S. M. meet on some day in the near future for the purpose of devising a plan for the building up of the State Militia, and of increasing its efficiency, by the formation of a State Militia Association.

THE Receiver of the defunct Merchants' National Bank of Fort Scott has declared an additional dividend of 30 per cent. payable to the creditors on and after the 1st of January next.

AT Topeka, the 19th, J. M. West was frightfully gored by a bull. Great wounds were made in the abdominal region, and his spine was terribly bruised, producing paralysis of the lower extremities. Three ribs were broken, and other injuries inflicted, which will cause death.

THE Buell Woolen Mills at Blue Rapids took fire at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 23d and were totally destroyed. The fire originated in the upper story of the building—a fine stone structure supplied with the latest and best machinery. The wool and manufactured goods were stored in another building which was not injured. Jas. Warning, foreman of the mill, was badly injured by a fall from a ladder. The loss is a very serious one to the community.

STEPHEN C. WOOLSEY of Sherman Township, Leavenworth County, fell dead the other day while burning a brush-heap.

WILLIAM W. WALTON has been appointed First Lieutenant and Adjutant of the First Regiment K. V. M., Col. Bradley commanding.

THERE were filed in the office of the Secretary of State, on the 23d, articles of consolidation by and between the Waterville and Washington Railway Company, the Republican Valley Railway Company, the Atchison, Republican Valley and Pacific Railway Company, the Atchison, Solomon Valley and Denver Railway Company, forming a consolidated company to be known as the Atchison, Colorado and Pacific Railroad Company. Principal office at Concordia, Kansas.

THE following changes were made in post-offices in this State during the week ending December 20, 1873: Established—Burdenville, Cowley County, E. A. Henthorn, Postmaster. Discontinued—New Canton, Cowley County. Postmasters Appointed—Alexander, Rush County, Robert Stephens; Arthur, Ness, Adam Ditman; Baltimore, Cowley, Wm. H. Gillard; Carmi, Pratt, Mrs. Frances E. Benton; Excelsior, Mitchell, Robert Gaston; Matfield Green, Chase, G. W. Boock; Mulberry, Saline, Waters Chilson; Murook, Butler, J. W. Tucker; Naomi, Mitchell, Samuel Ernst; Neuchatel, Nemaha, Chas. Am. Bonjour; Oak Ridge, Elk, Samuel J. Cox; Ward, Wilson, Wm. Sharpe.

DORRY FOX, at one time a member of the notorious Jesse James gang, was recently arrested in Sumner County, Kansas, and is now in jail in Kansas City, Mo. He is under indictment for assisting in the murder of J. W. Whitchers, one of Pinkerton's detectives, near Independence, Mo., on the 10th of March, 1874, and also for engaging in the robbery of a bank at Independence, during the latter part of the year of 1876. Fox was with Quantrell during the War. An old comrade, who states that Fox told the whole story of his participation in the murder and bank robbery, will be the chief witness against him.

JOHN BELL, a wealthy resident of Leavenworth County, was taken to Topeka on the 23d and placed in the Insane Asylum. He has become insane on the subject of National politics and labors under the belief that he is to be the head of a new Republic, which is to be formed. One phase of his lunacy is that unless all persons vote for him, they will be struck by lightning.

COAL has been discovered in the southwest part of Mitchell County, and the first load was sold in Beloit, and was pronounced of excellent quality.

A FEW days ago a 6-year-old son of A. W. Berry of Jewell City accidentally shot himself with a revolver, but not fatally.

MR. JOE PHINNEY, Cashier of Warden's Bank, in Frankfort, was seriously burned not long since, while lighting a fire with kerosene.

MR. H. T. CHELLIS was thrown from a wagon at Yates Center recently, resulting in severe injuries, three ribs being fractured, and his nervous system receiving a terrible shock. He has been unable to lie down since the time of the accident.

COMMISSIONER LONG has furnished the St. Joe & D. C. R. R. Co. 30,000 fish which were distributed in the following streams: Doniphan County—Cold Spring Creek, 2,000; Wolf River 3,000. Brown County—Walnut Creek, 4,000. Nemaha County—Nemaha River, 5,000. Marshall County—Vermillion, 3,000; Spring Creek, 3,000; Big Blue, 5,000. Washington County—Little Blue, 5,000.

Kansas City Markets.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., December 23.
Cattle—Native steers, \$2.75-4.55. Native cows, \$2.50-3.50.
Hogs—Sales at \$3.90-4.25.
Wheat—No. 2, \$1.24; No. 3, \$1.18.
Corn—No. 2 mixed, 30-30 1/2 cts.
Oats—No. 2, 21c bid.
Eggs—No. 2, 7c bid.
Eggs—Candied, 19-20c a dozen.
Butter—Choice Western, 17 1/2-18c; medium, 12 1/2-13c.

A Southern Orange Plantation.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, writing from Port Eads, says:

Daylight found us but 25 miles below New Orleans, and, to my great delight, we entered the region of sugar-cane and orange-groves just as the rising sun scattered the river fog and brought a day of soft beauty like a May Sabbath at the North. The air was balmy but stimulating, and the scene beautiful beyond description. North of the river the cane-fields stretched from the levee back to the lake, while on the south side dark forest, open field, and orange-grove alternated. The dark green trees of the orchards, set much thicker than apple trees, hung full of the rich green and yellow fruit; and as the boat landed every mile or two we had abundant time to enjoy the scene. At length we reached the Big Orchard, where the boat lay an hour, and I hastened on shore to secure a few specimens. Far back, almost hidden by the trees, stood the low, broad cottage, entirely surrounded by porch, which is the standard dwelling here, and when I made offer to purchase from a mulatto, the only person in sight, I was confronted by a stately dame, who rose from the porch, looking as if she might have stepped right out of the age of Louis XIV. Her black dress, her snowy hair, her strangely fair complexion, set off by a white shawl, added to the lofty dignity with which she said:

"Sir-r-r, ve do not retail ze oronziz."

I had blundered! When one has 2,000 trees in full bearing it does look a little small to be asked to sell a nickel's worth. Creole dignity was touched, but when I explained that I only wanted a few, which I could take from the tree myself, to show my children away in the cold North, the vieille madame became all graciousness. She pointed out the exact shade which would turn to a rich yellow by the time I got home; told me they sold \$4,600 worth from 2,000 trees, and that this year they sent to market in their own boat, always picking them as many days before complete ripeness as it would probably take for them to reach their destination. She said one good apple here was worth two or three oranges, and smiled sweet unbelief when I told her of our land of long winters, where apples are common diet.

Hiving Bees by the Use of Electricity.

Perhaps one of the quaggiest applications of electricity to the useful arts is its employment in the hiving of bees when they swarm. The old-fashioned way of accomplishing this interesting feat of domestic economy was, if not absolutely dangerous, at least quite annoying and provoking. German scientists of a practical disposition conceived the notion of utilizing the electric force to stupefy, without injuring, the bees for a short period. The plan was found to work like a charm. It was first tried upon bees that had gathered on trees. Whether the clusters were large or small, the result was perfect. The bees fell upon the ground in a trance which admitted of safe handling. The next stage in the experiment was to capture the bees when they were about to swarm. By introducing the ends of two conducting wires into a fully occupied honeycomb, and turning on the current for an instant, the insects were rendered inactive for about 30 minutes. Bee-rearing and the producing of honey are yearly becoming a greater industry in this country, and especially in the Mississippi Valley. Parties interested in the business should test the German idea of hiving bees by electricity. The chance is not remote that bee proprietors will apply too strong a shock and lose their bees, but they will gain in science, which ameliorates all small disasters in this progressive age.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

Decline of the Trout.

This is probably the last generation of trout fishers. The children will not be able to find any. Already there are well trodden paths by every stream in Maine, in New York and in Michigan. I know of no river in North America by the side of which you find no paper collar or other evidence of civilization; it is the Nameless River. Not that trout will cease to be. They will be hatched by machinery and raised in ponds, and fattened on chopped liver, and grow flabby and lose their spoils. The trout of the restaurant will not cease to be. He is no more like the trout of the wild river than the fat and songless reed-bird is like the bobolink. Gross feeding and easy pond-life enervate and deprave him.

The trout that the children will know only by legend is the gold-sprinkled, living arrow of the Whitewater—able to zig-zag up the cataract, able to loiter in the rapids—whose dainty meat is the glancing butterfly.—*Rev. Myron H. Reed.*

HEMORRHOIDAL PASTILLES

Prof. HARRIS' RADICAL CURE FOR PILES!
Prof. Harris has issued an illustrated pamphlet, which gives the cause, nature, and full description of the different kinds of Piles, and the scientific mode of cure, and which is sent free to any address. While he makes no attempt to compete with numerous remedies now sold at 25 cents and \$1, he gives such a thoroughly common sense explanation of the disease and his manner of effecting a cure, that he finds he has not misplaced his confidence. In securing that patronage always awarded to the best in any line of trade. The price of a month's treatment by mail is \$5, and a careful reading of the pamphlet will convince any sufferer that it is fully worth its cost.

Prof. Harris has issued illustrated pamphlets of his treatment of Seminal Weakness in men, and Leucorrhea or Whites in women, describing his mode of effecting a cure. Sent free for a stamp. Will convince the most skeptical that they can be restored to health. HARRIS REMEDY CO., 179 CHEMISTS, Market and 8th Sts., ST. LOUIS, MO.

PROF. HARRIS' RADICAL CURE FOR SPERMATORRHEA.

"SEMINAL PASTILLE"
A Valuable Discovery and New Departure in Medical Science, an entirely new and positively effective Remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Seminal Emissions & Impotency, by the only true way, viz., Direct Application to the principal Seat of the Disease, acting by Absorption, and exerting its specific influence on the Seminal Vesicles, Prostate Gland, Uterus, etc. The use of the Remedy is attended with no pain or inconvenience, and does not interfere with the ordinary pursuits of life. It is quickly dissolved and soon absorbed, producing an immediate soothing and restorative effect upon the sexual and nervous organizations wrecked from self-abuse and excess, and restoring the drains from the system, restoring the mind to health and sound memory, removing the Diarrhea of Sight, Nervous Debility, Confusion of Ideas, Aversion to Society, etc., and the appearance of premature old age usually accompanying this trouble, and restoring perfect Sexual Vigor, and giving it has stood the test in very severe cases, and is now a pronounced success. Druggists are too much preoccupied with these troubles, and as many can bear witness to with but little if any permanent good. There is no Quackery about this preparation. Practical observation enables us to positively guarantee that it will give satisfaction.—During the eight years that it has been in general use, we have thousands of testimonials as to its value, and it is now conceded by the Medical Profession to be the most rational means yet discovered of reaching and curing this very prevalent trouble, that is well known to be the cause of untold misery to so many, and upon whom Quacks prey with their useless nostrums and big fees. The Remedy is put up in neat boxes, of three sizes. No. 1 (enough to last a month), \$3; No. 2 (enough to effect a permanent cure, unless in severe cases), \$5; No. 3 (lasting over three months), \$10. Sent by mail, sealed, in plain wrapper. Full DIRECTIONS for using accompany each box.

Send for a Descriptive Pamphlet giving full details of the disease, and the mode of cure, and the most scientific mode of restoring to perfect health, and fitted for the duties of life, same as if never afflicted. Sent sealed for stamp to every one. Sold only by HARRIS REMEDY CO., 179 CHEMISTS, Market and 8th Sts., ST. LOUIS, MO.

RADICAL CURE OF LEUCORRHEA or WHITES

THE VAGINAL PASTILLE
Prof. Harris, after many years of study, aided by chemical research and experiment, together with experience gained in the treatment of a large number of cases, has at last succeeded in compounding an INFALLIBLE REMEDY for the scourge so common among

WOMEN AND MAIDENS CALLED LEUCORRHEA, or WHITES.

This disease, so prevalent among females, is but little understood by physicians. It is a drain upon the system, is so excessive and debilitating, that our American women are rapidly becoming a "race of invalids," and are unable to produce healthy offspring, or enjoying life's pleasures. Prof. Harris' Vaginal Pastille, a new departure in medicine, thoroughly cures these troubles. Applied directly to the seat of the disease, and its specific influence exerted at once, producing an immediate soothing and restorative effect. The application of the remedy is attended with no pain or unpleasantness, and does not interfere with the ordinary pursuits and pleasures of life. Circulars are sent in perfectly plain envelopes, securely sealed from observation, and remedy put up in neat plain boxes of three sizes, with full directions inside. No. 1, (enough to last a month), \$3; No. 2, (enough to last two months), \$5; No. 3, (enough to last three months), \$10. With each box, we send a Female Syringe and some Tonic Pills, as auxiliaries to the Remedy.

Send stamp for a pamphlet giving full description of Remedy, and illustrated by plates showing the correct application. This pamphlet alone is worth a hundred times its cost to any lady in delicate health, being a thoroughly practical treatise on the disease. Prof. Harris' Vaginal Pastilles can be obtained only from HARRIS REMEDY CO., 179 CHEMISTS, Market and 8th Sts., ST. LOUIS, MO.

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A large, new and complete Guide to Wedlock, containing, with many others the following chapters: A Complete Womanhood, Selection of a Husband, of Virginity, Temperament, Compatibility and Incompatibility, Sterility in Women, Causes and Treatment, Advice to Bachelors, Advice to Wives, Prostitution, its causes, Consequences and Remedies, Conjugial Duties, Conception, Confinement, Lovers and Divorces, Legal rights of married women, etc., including Diseases peculiar to Women, their causes and treatment. A book for private and considerable reading. Sent by mail, sealed, 50 cents.

THE PRIVATE MEDICAL ADVISER. One of the most popular Medical Books published. It contains a full description of all the diseases of the human system, from Seminal Emissions, Sexual Debility, and Impotency, from Self-Abuse and Excess, causing Seminal Emissions, Nervousness, Aversion to Society, Confusion of Ideas, Physical Decay, Dimness of Sight, Defective Memory, Loss of Sexual Power, etc., making marriage improper or unhappy, giving treatment, and a great many valuable receipts for the cure of all private diseases; 50c.

Medical Advice. Lectures on Menstrual and Womanhood, 10c. For one dollar we send all three of the above described books, nicely bound in one volume, containing 500 pages and over 100 illustrations, and embracing every thing on the generative system that is worth knowing. The combined volume is perhaps the most popular Medical Book published. The author is an experienced physician of many years practice, (as is well known), and the advice given, and rules for treatment laid down, will be found of great value to those suffering from impurities of the system, early errors, lost vigor, or of the numerous troubles coming under the head of "Private" or "Chronic" diseases.—Postage stamps taken in payment for any of these books.

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TRADE MARK. The Great English Remedy for Seminal Weakness, Spermatorrhea, Impotency, and all diseases that follow as a consequence of Self-Abuse, or Loss of Vitality. Before Taking, Always see Label of Remedy. Memory, Universal Knowledge, Pains in the Back, Dimness of Vision, Premature Old Age, and many other Diseases that lead to Impotency or Consumption, and a Premature Grave. Full particulars in our pamphlet, which we desire to send free by mail to every one. The Specific Medicine is sold by all druggists at \$1 per package, or six packages for \$5, or will be sent free by mail on receipt of the money by addressing THE GRAY MEDICINE CO., 184 N. 3rd St., St. Louis, Mo.